Upgradation of Visakhapatnam Railway Station

1031. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Visakhapatnam station has been selected for upgradation as a model station;

(b) if so, when the works are proposed to be undertaken; and

(c) the allocation proposed to be made for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Visakhapatnam station has been selected as a model station for upgradation of passenger amenities. Certain facilities in connection with the scheme have already been provided and the other remaining facilities are targeted for completion during 2000-2001. The requisite funds for these works will be provided.

Handing Over of Train Operations to Private Sector

†1032. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to hand-over operation of train services on unproductive routes on contract basis to the private sector, in order to avoid the loss being caused at present;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would consider to formulate such a plan in future; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government decision is that Railways will remain in the Public Sector.

(c) There is no such proposal at present. In case any proposal is

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.